(b) if so, the names of such schemes and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) The National Common Minimum Programme of the Government *inter-alia* aims at ensuring that all funds given to States for implementation of Poverty Alleviation and Rural Development Schemes by Panchayats are neither delayed nor diverted. It further states that after consultations with States, the Government will consider crediting elected Panchayats with such funds directly. Therefore, there is at present no scheme to provide funds directly to the Panchayats.

Flexible air space management

*120. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI MOTILAL VORA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to make air space management more flexible which will lead to ten to fifteen per cent expansion in the Indian air space;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether, at present, the air space is divided between civil and military operations and if so, the percentage of air space available to military organizations and civilian aircrafts; and

(d) whether the civil aviation and Indian Air Force authorities have discussed air safety measures and if so, the outcome of the discussion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The flexible use of air space is only to permit civil aircraft to use the airspace exclusively reserved for military purposes for optimum utilization of Indian airspace. It does not lead to expansion of the existing Indian air space.

(c) Yes, Sir. Air space available to military and civil operations is 35% and 65% of the total of the Indian air space respectively.

(d) Discussion with Indian Air Force on air safety measures is a regular ongoing exercise to work out coordination procedures between Indian Air Force and Civil Aviation Authorities.